

To: Senator LeBeau  
Representative Berger  
Members of the Commerce Committee

Date: March 14, 2012

Re: Support for Raised House Bill No. 5466: **AN ACT CONCERNING SOCIAL ENTERPRISE BUSINESSES**

I am writing in support of Raised House Bill No. 5466. I support this bill because I believe that this bill will help to create jobs and retain college graduates. After living in Connecticut for my entire life and going to college at Central Connecticut State University it is my belief that I need to give something back to the state of Connecticut before I move, if I ever do.

While I was at Central Connecticut State University most of my classmates did not speak about how they were going to stay in Connecticut and how they were going to improve the business and social environment for Connecticut. For my first three years at CCSU this did not bother me, but after being involved with a project called Community Central at CCSU it became evident that it is that mentality of leaving Connecticut that is corrosive to the future of the state. Since we live in a world of instant connection it seems that college students are looking at the many possibilities they have to impact the world in a positive way. The only issue with this is that many of the college graduates in Connecticut do not think of how they can impact Connecticut but rather how they will move to New York City or Boston or California and create an impact. Why not Connecticut?

Another trend that I have been seeing when talking with other college graduates and students is that we all have the same vision of leaving our communities better off than when we arrived. This mentality of creating some sort of social benefit and improving our communities is something that I hope becomes a staple of my generation. Now this represents a great opportunity for Connecticut to tell all the college graduates that we want to help you with that journey to improve your communities.

Since I was a youngster, I always wanted to start my own company and as I grew older I began to realize that I want to improve my community as well. Social Entrepreneurship is a growing field that has the potential to change the landscape of business and to not think of business as just a profit making machine but a change agent to social issues.

Now as more and more college graduates come out of school thinking that they want to improve their communities as well as make money, Connecticut needs to provide

vehicles for those students to create organizations that can have a positive social impact while making a profit. This is why I support Raised House Bill No. 5466 because with the creation of a social enterprise designation Connecticut is telling our students and college graduates that we want to work with you to become successful in positively impacting your communities.

Please help myself and other college graduates in our journey to creating social benefit and jobs in this tough economy.

Thank you for your consideration and do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

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